

Serial No. 09/986,748
Docket No.: NEC-5084-US
IKE.009

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment is proper because it narrows the issues on appeal and does not require further search by the Examiner.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-13, 15-17, 19, and 20 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to more particularly define the invention. Claims 5, 9, 14, and 17 have been cancelled in the interest of expediting prosecution.

Claims 1-2, 5, 8-11, 14 and 17-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ozawa, JP 08-101919. Claims 3-4, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozawa. Claims 6-7, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozawa in view of Blackham, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,619,198. Claims 1-2, 5, 8-11, 14 and 17-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshizawa et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,359,548. Claims 3-4, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshizawa, et al. Claims 6-7, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshizawa et al. in view of Blackham, et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In the claimed invention, the fixed point data that is extracted comprises a predetermined number of the most significant bits of the mantissa part after the mantissa part has been shifted by the difference between the value of the exponent part of the inputted floating point data and the value of the exponent part of a reference floating point data.

In contrast, in Ozawa, after mantissa shifting, encoding is performed in encoding devices. See Ozawa at the last line of the Abstract. In Blackham, an "unclipped output mantissa signal" (see Blackham at column 3, lines 14-15) is clipped to a maximum level, if

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positive, or a minimum level, if negative to produce an output mantissa signal in floating point number format or an output fixed point number signal in fixed point format. See Blackham at column 3, lines 21-26. In Yoshizawa after mantissa shifting, addition and subtraction for the mantissas is executed, in which an adjustment of digit positions is completed. A normalization circuit normalizes and outputs the result of the addition and subtraction. See Yoshizawa at column 11, line 67 to column 12, line 5 and at column 12, lines 41-47.

Thus, none of the references shows or suggests a circuit or a method in which fixed point data that is extracted comprises a predetermined number of the most significant bits of the mantissa part that has been shifted by the difference between the value of the exponent part of the inputted floating point data and the value of the exponent part of a reference floating point data.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-13, 15-17, 19, and 20, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are allowable, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such action would be appreciated.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary for allowance in a telephonic or personal interview.


To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency in fees, including

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extension of time fees, or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account
No. 50-0481.

Date: August 11, 2005

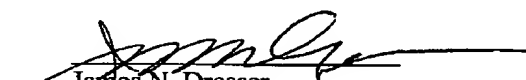
Respectfully Submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that I am filing this Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 by facsimile
with the United States Patent and Trademark Office to Examiner Chuong Ngo, Group Art
Unit 2193 at fax number 703-872-9306 this 11th day of August 2005.


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